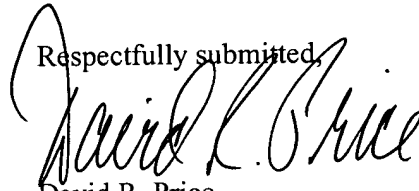


**Remarks**

This preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from the claims and to conform to US practice. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of this amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee.

If a conference call would be useful in resolving issues arising from the filing of this communication, please contact the undersigned at the below-noted number.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David R. Price". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "P".

David R. Price  
Reg. No. 31,557

Attorney Docket No. 013344-9059-00

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